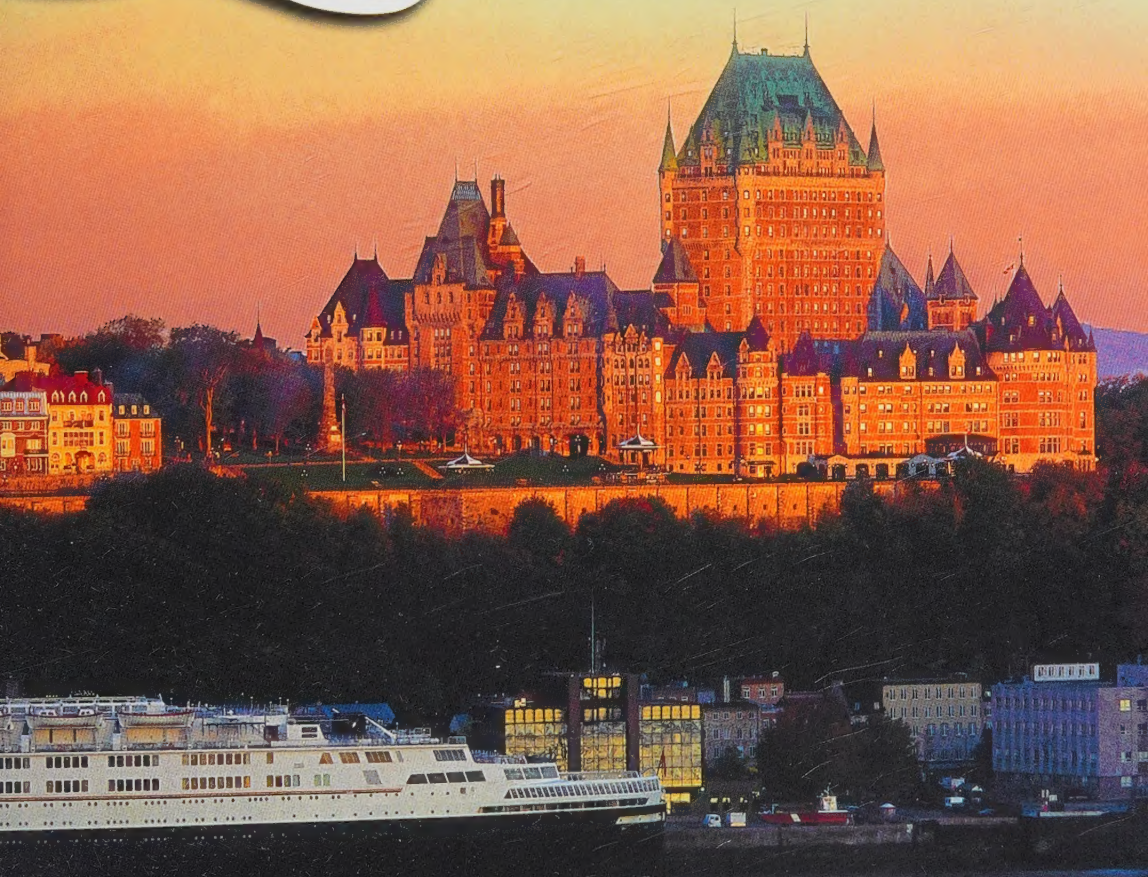
Québec

A North American Treasure



Brigitte Ostiguy · Jean-Marie Lebel · Donald Dion

Les Éditions
du Chien Rouge

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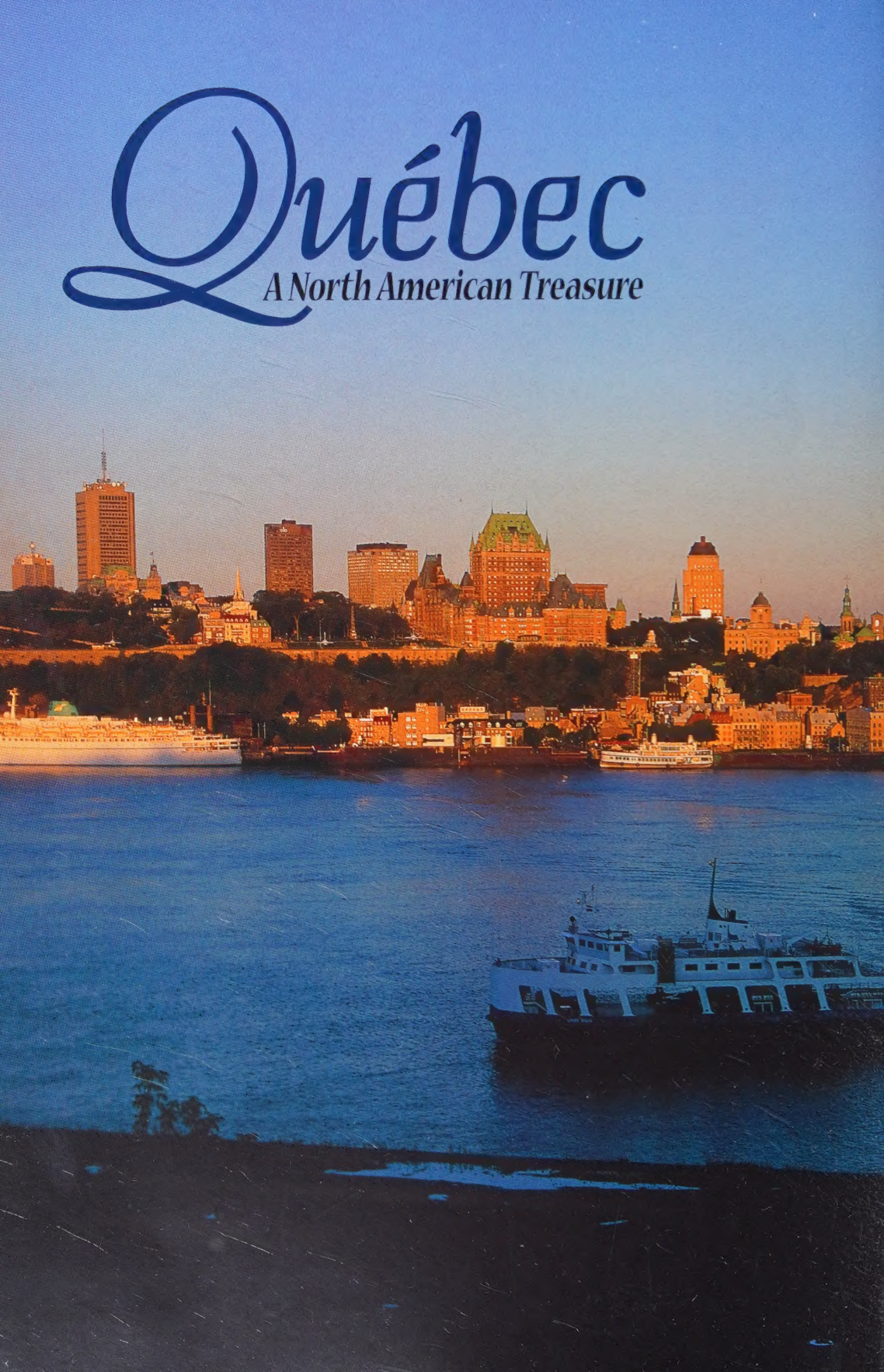
Québec

A North American Treasure



"The impression made upon the visitor by this Gibraltar of America, its giddy heights, its citadel suspended, as it were, in the air; its picturesque steep streets and frowning gateways; and the splendid views which burst upon the eye at every turn, is at once unique and lasting. It is a place not to be forgotten or mixed up in the mind with other places, or altered for a moment in the crowd of scenes a traveller can recall."

Charles Dickens, 1842

Founded in 1608 on the north shore of the majestic St. Lawrence River, Québec is the oldest city in Canada. ⚜ It extends above and below the long line of cliffs emerging from the imposing Cap Diamant. ⚜ On the promontory crowned by the Citadel, fortified walls encircle the city. ⚜ Just below the cliffs is Place-Royale, the very heart of the establishment of French civilization in America. ⚜ Quebecers are known for their quick smile and warm welcome all year round. ⚜ The city's romantic charm is an invitation to stroll through the narrow streets where the stone houses recall the history of this North American treasure.

A monument made of bronze, granite and glass next to Château Frontenac commemorates Old Québec's classification as one of UNESCO's prestigious World Heritage Cities. Québec was the first North American city to deserve this honour.

First Nations

Onhoüa Chetek8e, *meaning "from yesterday until today", is located in Wendake, the Huron Village, 15 kilometers outside Québec City. This historic site presents the dwellings and traditions of the Huron-Wendats who have lived here since 1697.* Onhoüa Chetek8e *features craftsmanship, cooking, song and dance.*

Onhoüa Chetek8e, traditional Huron site

An Iroquois longhouse has been reconstructed at the Cartier-Brébeuf National Historic Site of Canada. With its structure of conifer poles and exterior of Eastern hemlock bark, the building is 18 meters long and can house 50 people. Many of these houses were built close together, sometimes surrounded by a palisade. The Amerindians lived by farming, hunting and fishing. To the left, Pause in the Forest, *a bronze by the sculptor Louis-Philippe Hébert created in 1889 for the front entrance of the Parliament Building. This sculpture pays homage to the First Nations of Québec.*

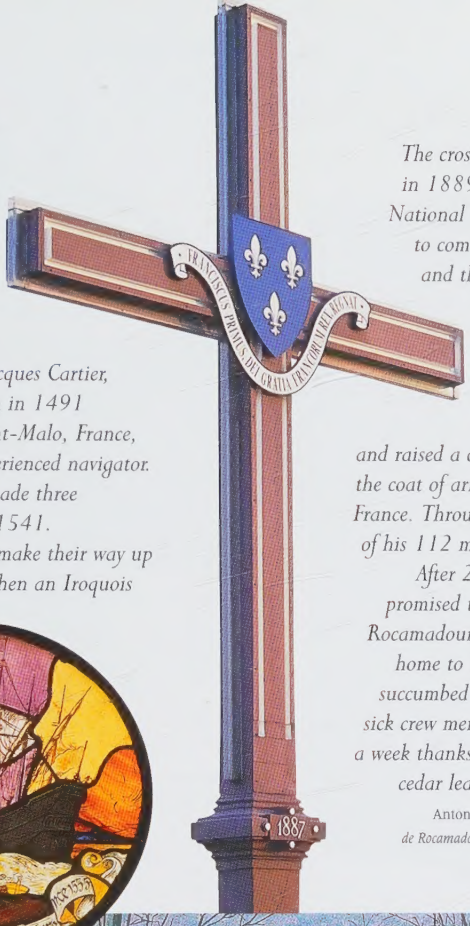
Jewelry, moccasins, basketwork, pottery, snowshoes and many other artifacts are examples of the living traditions of First Nations craftsmanship.

Reproductions of everyday objects on exhibit at the Cartier-Brébeuf National Historic Site of Canada

Jacques Cartier

Jacques Cartier, born in 1491 in Saint-Malo, France, was an experienced navigator. In search of gold and a passage to Asia, he made three expeditions to Canada in 1534, 1535 and 1541. He and his crews were the first Europeans to make their way up the St. Lawrence River and land at Québec, then an Iroquois village called Stadacona.

A stained-glass window at the Château Frontenac depicting one of Cartier's ships.



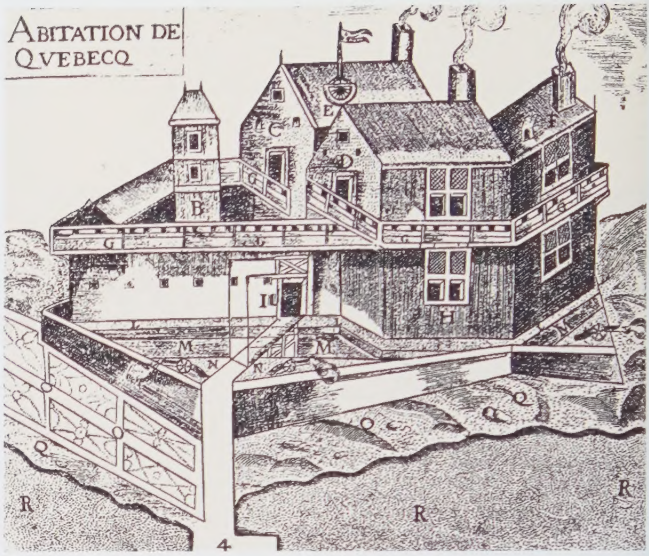
The cross shown here was raised in 1889 at the Cartier-Brébeuf National Historic Site of Canada to commemorate Cartier's stay and the first Jesuit settlement in 1625. In 1535, Cartier's expedition spent the winter on the banks of the Saint-Charles River and raised a cross on the site bearing the coat of arms of Francis I, King of France. Throughout the winter, many of his 112 men suffered from scurvy. After 25 of them died, Cartier promised to make a pilgrimage to Rocamadour if he ever made it back home to France. Forty more men succumbed to scurvy, but the other sick crew members were cured within a week thanks to a decoction of white cedar learned from the Iroquois.

Antonio Masselotte, *Wish to Notre-Dame de Rocamadour*, 1921, Saint-François d'Assise Church, Québec City

Samuel de Champlain

After persuading Henry IV to let him set up a colony in New France, Samuel de Champlain (from Brouage, France) founded Québec City in 1608.

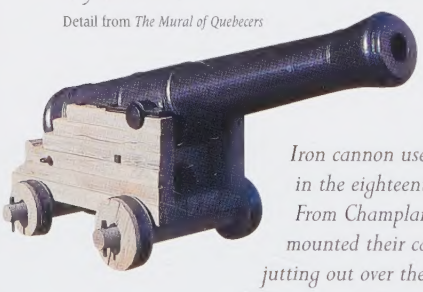
Detail from *The Mural of Quebecers*



Champlain sketched this picture of the "Abitation de Quebecq," which he and his men built on their arrival. (Drawing, ANQ, Québec)

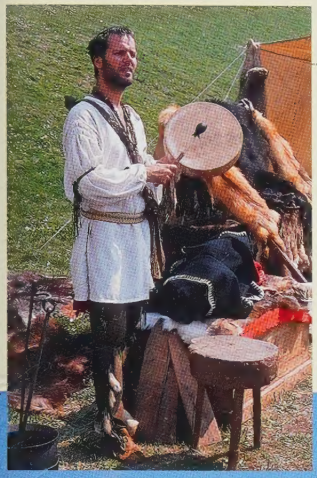
Champlain set up a fur trading post mainly for exchanging beaver pelts. Beaver played such an important role in the economic development of New France and of Canada that it was officially recognized as the Canadian national emblem.

Weathervane on a mill built by the Augustinian nuns from the *Hôpital Général de Québec* in 1709



Iron cannon used by the French navy in the eighteenth century. From Champlain's time, the French mounted their cannons on a rocky point jutting out over the river. In 1691, on the same point, Governor Frontenac built the Royal Battery to protect Québec threatened by an English invasion.

New France Festival



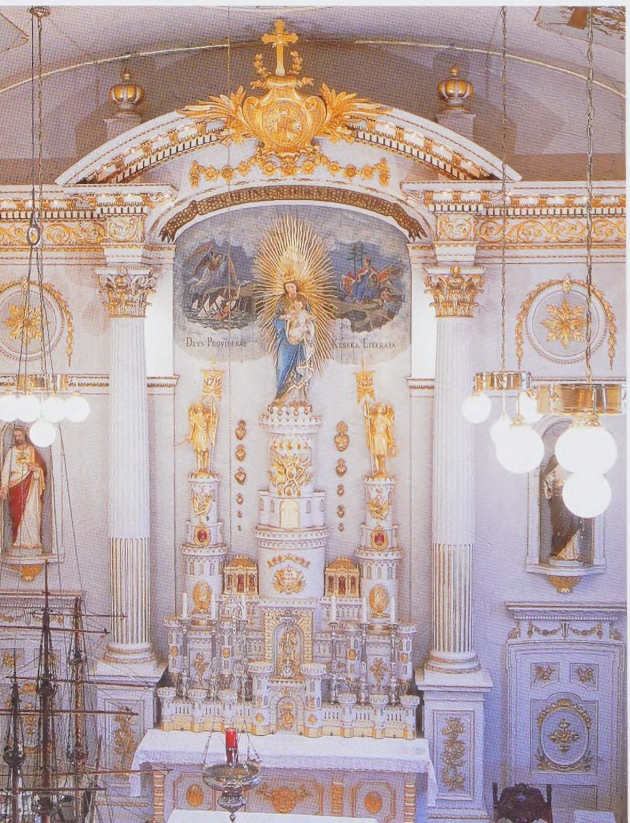
For a few days every August, Québec moves to the rhythm of the New France Festival. This festival celebrates the birth of French America and the settlers' way of life from 1608 to 1760. The traditions, trades and music from that era come back to life.

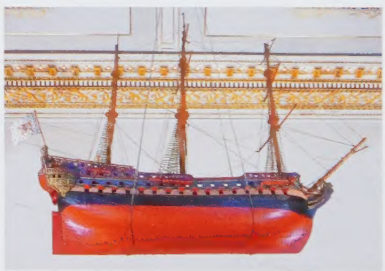
Many townspeople and visitors don costumes and joyfully join in the festival. Actors, musicians and dancers enliven Old Québec and bring delight to all. To the left, soldiers of the Compagnie Franche de la Marine. *Below, the market vendors selling their wares animate Place de Paris.*

Place-Royale

Since 1686, a bust of Louis XIV has stood in Place-Royale. The French colony was already setting up shop around the settlement Champlain had built. This is one of the oldest marketplaces in North America. The current bust of the King of France was erected in 1948 and is a copy of a Bernini marble at Versailles.

Construction on the Notre-Dame-des-Victoires Church began in 1687 on the site of Champlain's original settlement. The church is named in memory of two victories – against the English armies of Phipps in 1690 and Walker in 1711, both of whom failed to take Québec.





Suspended in the church's ceiling is a scale model of the Brézé. *The Marquis de Tracy and four companies of the regiment of Carignan-Salières were brought to Québec by this ship in 1664. The high altar with its statue of Notre-Dame-des-Victoires is made of painted and gilded wood and was carved by the sculptor David Ouellet in 1878. Its strange motifs made up of towers and crenellated ram parts are most unusual.*

RUE
DES PAINS-BÉNITS
COMMÉMORANT SAINTE-GENEVIÈVE
CONJURANT LA FAMINE

Des Pains-Bénits Street runs the length of a side-chapel dedicated to St. Geneviève, patron saint of Paris. Every year according to tradition, small St. Geneviève rolls are blessed and given out to prevent famine.

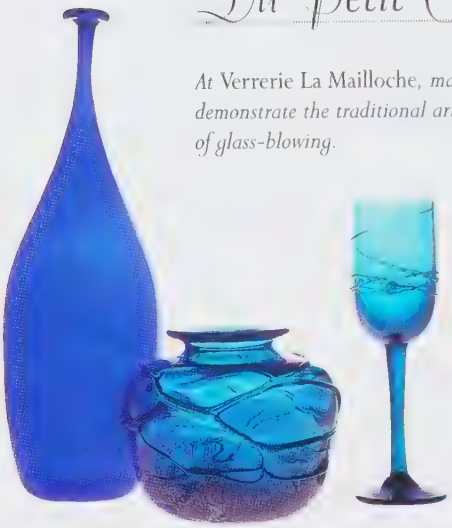
In August, the New France Festival enlivens the square. The Centre d'interprétation de la Place-Royale, *which highlights the commercial history of this district, is located inside the old Hazeur House. To the right, a letterhead of a grocer who set up business in the district in 1885.*

Tiny Cul-de-Sac Street cuts behind the Chevalier House. A First Nations family stands in welcome, carved by craftsman Wobanakiak.

The Chevalier House was built in 1752. Later two more houses were added on either side. The Musée de la civilisation presents period Québec interiors here. The Centre d'interprétation de la vie urbaine features thematic exhibitions and walking tours.

Du Petit-Champlain Street

At Verrerie La Mailloche, *master-glaziers demonstrate the traditional art of glass-blowing.*

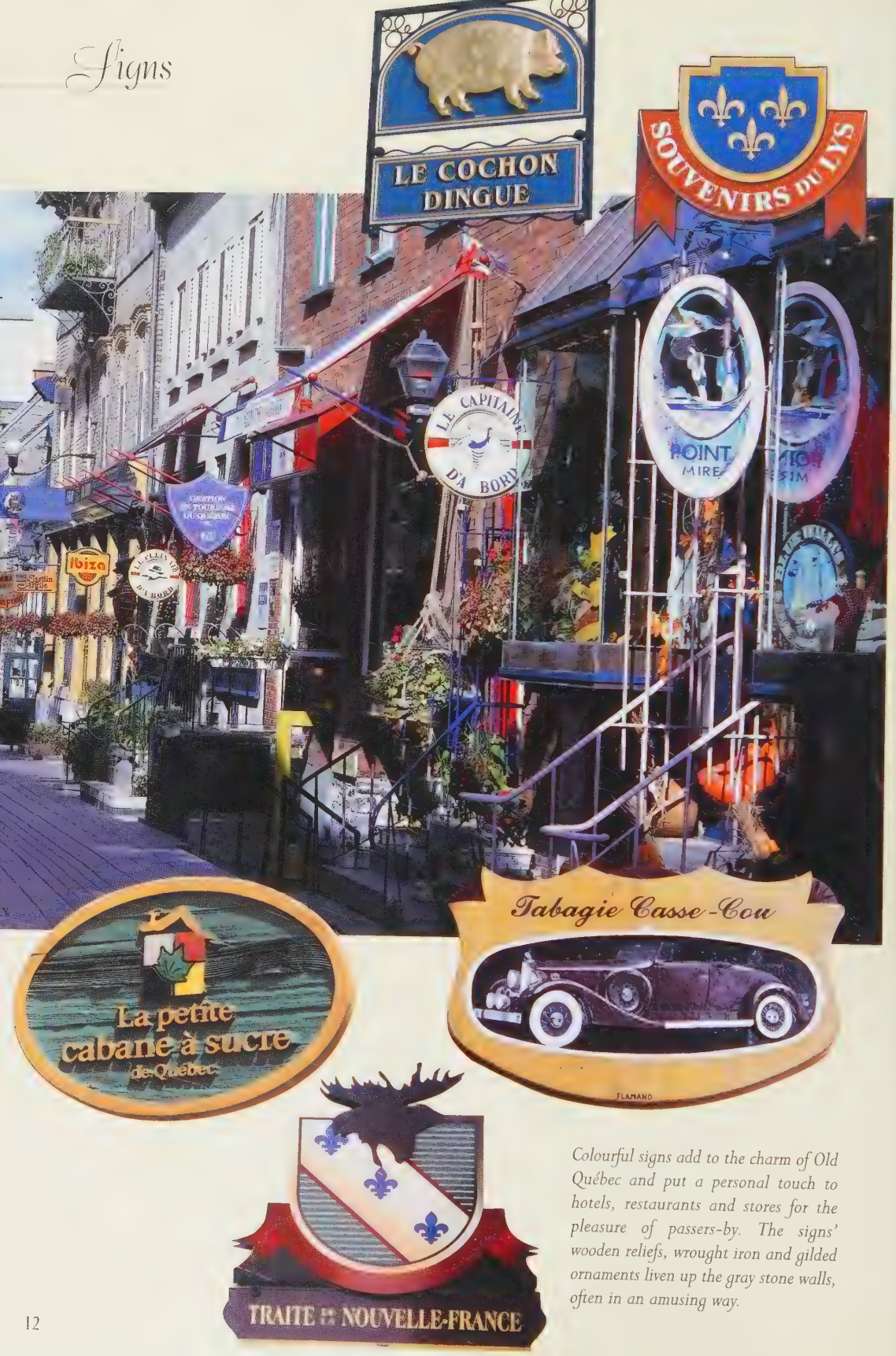


In use since 1660, the Escalier Casse-Cou (Breakneck Steps) connects Du Petit-Champlain Street to Côte de la Montagne. The stairs were so ramshackle that you really could break your neck on them!

The Louis-Jolliet House was built in 1683 at the foot of the Breakneck Steps for this famous explorer. Ten years earlier, Louis Jolliet and Father Jacques Marquette set out in search of a route to the China Seas and discovered the Mississippi River. Since 1879, a funicular has carried passengers from the ground floor of his house up to Dufferin Terrace.

This little park on Du Petit-Champlain Street is dedicated to Félix Leclerc (1914-1988). A great troubadour and writer, his work projects the depth of his poetic soul and was inspired by Island of Orléans. Suspended from the cliff, Le Souffle de l'Île, *a sculpture by Hélène Rochette.*

Du Petit-Champlain Street, still very narrow, was already crowded with sailors, dockers and vendors by 1650. Today it is a pedestrian precinct lined with shops run by artists and craftspeople. At the Maison de la Chanson *(The House of Song), Québécois and international singers perform French songs. This is a great place to go for a stroll, whether in summer with its many flower boxes and troupes of musicians and street artists, or in winter with its thousands of magical lights.*



Colourful signs add to the charm of Old Québec and put a personal touch to hotels, restaurants and stores for the pleasure of passers-by. The signs' wooden reliefs, wrought iron and gilded ornaments liven up the gray stone walls, often in an amusing way.

Mural of Quebecers

The Mural of Quebecers *was painted in 1999 on the side of a house on Notre-Dame Street at the bottom of Côte de la Montagne. The huge trompe-l'oeil pays tribute to the great figures in Québec's history and to its citizens. The mural shows all the city's various architectural styles. Detail: boys playing hockey, a favourite national sport.*

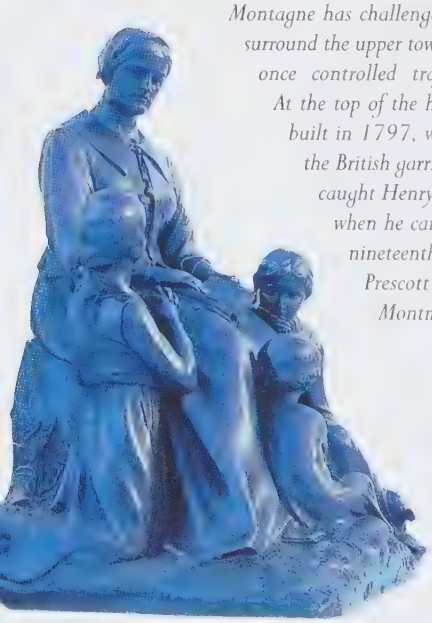
Design and production: *Cité de la Création*

Coproduction: *Commission de la capitale nationale du Québec (CCNQ) et Société de développement des entreprises culturelles du Québec (SODEC)*

Côte de la Montagne

At the top of the hill, the imposing Post Office building first opened in 1873 and was later enlarged and decorated in Beaux Arts style from 1913 to 1919. Above the Post Office's main entrance is the strange stone carving of le Chien d'or *(the Golden Dog). In New France, it stood by the Philibert House located on the same site. Underneath is the enigmatic inscription "I am a dog gnawing a bone. As I gnaw, I get some rest. A time will come When I shall bite the one who has bitten me." (translation)*

Since it was laid out in 1623, the very steep Côte de la Montagne has challenged pedestrians. Fortified walls surround the upper town. The gates and their sentries once controlled traffic in this part of town. At the top of the hill, the austere Prescott Gate, built in 1797, was demolished in 1871 when the British garrison left Québec City. This gate caught Henry David Thoreau's imagination when he came to Québec in 1850. He wrote, "I rubbed my eyes to be sure that I was in the nineteenth century... It was such a reminiscence of the Middle Ages as Scott's novel." The Prescott pedestrian walkway, built over the old Prescott Gate site in 1983, leads to Montmorency Park. Photo collection Patrick Altman



A statue of Marie Rollet teaching "the true faith" to her two children and a young Amerindian. She sits at the foot of a statue of her husband, Louis Hébert, who was an apothecary and the first settler to cultivate land in New France in 1617. The bronze monument by Alfred Laliberté, unveiled in 1918, stands at the edge of Montmorency Park, on the site of Hébert's property.

Montmorency Park Seasons

Montmorency Park fans out between the ramparts and the Seminary. Laid out in 1898, it is named after the first bishop of Québec, François de Laval, a member of the Montmorency family. This park is known for its tranquillity and panoramic view of Place-Royale, the St. Lawrence River and the south shore.

After 1711, cannons were mounted on the Great Battery, a strategic position for defending the city. Today, the black nineteenth century British cannons contrast with the vibrant fall colours.

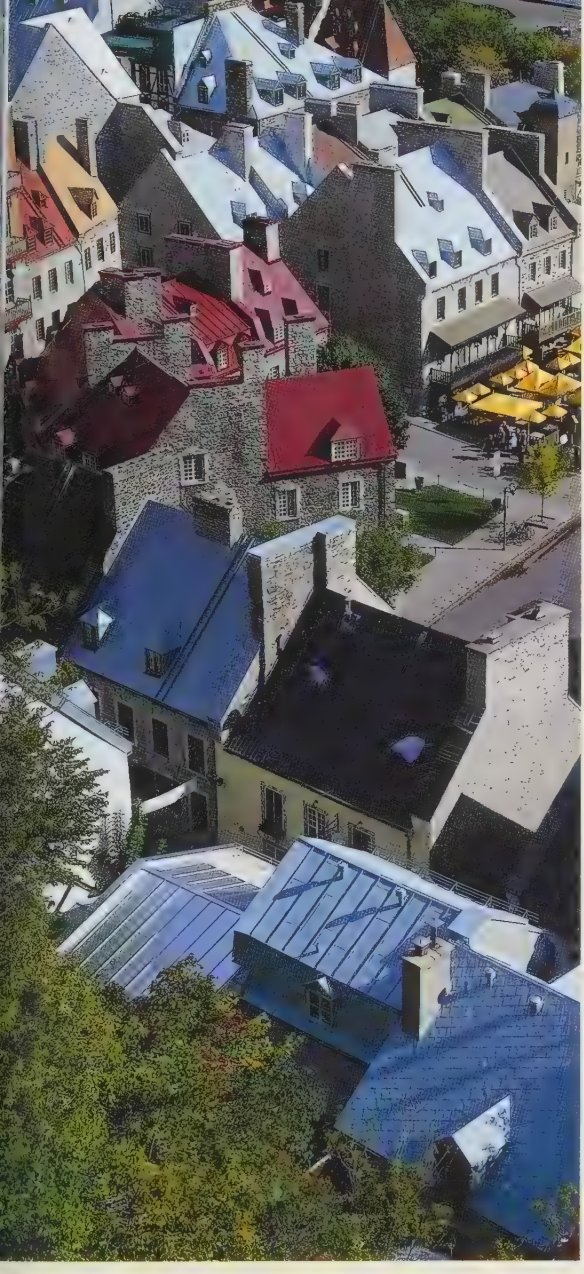
Inaugurated in 1920, the monument to George-Étienne Cartier (one of the Fathers of Confederation) faces the blustering winter winds and stands as a reminder that this park is located on the site of the original Parliament Building of Lower Canada, of United Canada, and of the province of Québec from 1792 to 1883.

Place d'Armes

Place d'Armes, once the military parade ground in New France, is a favourite stopping place for visitors. The gothic-style Monument de la Foi *pays homage to the Recollets, the first missionaries in the colony. Until 1796, their convent opened onto the square. The white building was built in 1804 as the Union Hotel, which today houses the Tourist Information Centre. To its right, the* Musée du Fort *presents the highlights of Québec's military history.*

Erected in 1898, the statue of Samuel de Champlain is by the Parisian sculptor Paul Chevré. It occupies the spot where the old Saint-Louis Fort once stood and where Champlain died on Christmas Day 1635. An angel on the pedestal sounds the trumpet, announcing the glory of the founder of Québec.

Laid out in about 1689, the narrow Du Trésor Street led to the offices of the Marine Treasury in the French colonial period. Since the end of the 1950s, this open-air art gallery offers paintings, prints, watercolours and drawings of picturesque spots in Old Québec to passers-by



Roofs and Dormer Windows

"From the heights of Québec City, one looks down onto a sea of roofs. The sagging, timeworn roofs seem to give way to the shiny, new ones, while in the neighbouring area, the autumn-coloured trees sway gracefully to and fro above the new and old roofs." (translation)

Esther Brann, 1930

Houses in New France were topped with gable roofs covered with wooden boards or shingles. Later, roofs were covered with thin metal sheets in a square pattern or with metal sheet held with battens. Dormer windows allowed living space under the eaves and testified to the skill of roofers of the day. In winter, pedestrians should beware of falling snow and icicles!

Château Frontenac

ON THE COVER: Fairmont Château Frontenac is one of the most prestigious hotels on the continent, the most photographed hotel in the world, and undeniably Québec's greatest symbol. In the foreground, the celebrated ocean liner, Queen Elizabeth.

Formerly owned by the Canadian Pacific Railway, it was designed by the architect Bruce Price and opened its doors in 1893. Its high copper roofs and countless dormer windows and turrets were inspired by the châteaux of the Loire in France.

The central tower, raised in 1924 by the brothers Edward and William S. Maxwell, is one of the later additions. The Dufferin Terrace runs in front of the hotel, a picture-perfect promenade from which the city, the river and the surrounding country can all be admired.

The Château takes its name from Louis de Buade, Count of Frontenac, and Governor of New France from 1672 to 1682 and from 1689 to 1698. Since 1890, he has stood in a niche on the front of the Parliament Building, his bronze figure pointing a cannon. "I will answer you from the mouths of my cannons..." he retorted to Admiral Phipps when the latter attempted to capture Québec in 1690.

The Frontenac coat of arms and a variety of figures and animals decorate the walls of the Château both inside and out. A Maltese cross dominates the arcade in the interior courtyard. This carved stone comes from Château Saint-Louis, which once occupied this site, and where the governors of the colony resided from 1648 to 1834.

The grand staircase leads from the entrance hall to the Palm Room. This chamber, with its ceiling painted with plant motifs, is the gracious antechamber to the ballroom where well-known people have celebrated.

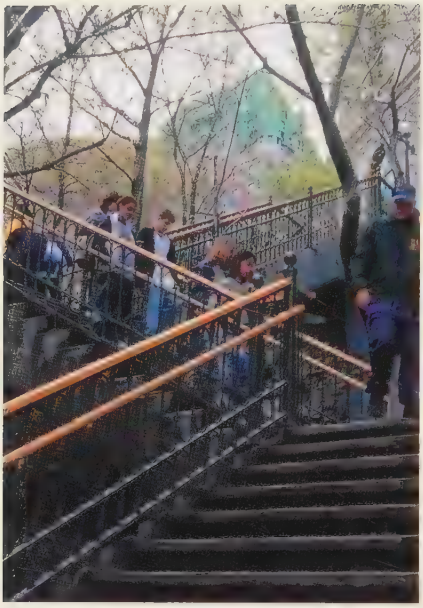
A portrait of François de Laval, Bishop of Québec in Frontenac's time, hangs in the staircase at the south end of the main hall.

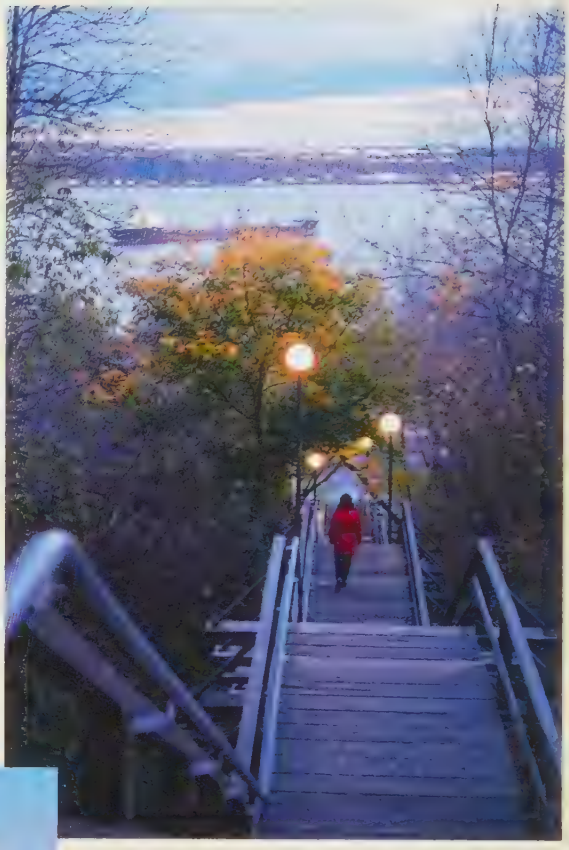
One of the oldest commemorative monuments in Québec stands in the Governors' Garden, next to Château Frontenac. This obelisk was erected in 1827 in memory of General James Wolfe and the Marquis de Montcalm, who both fought at the Battle of the Plains of Abraham in 1759.

This figure with the joyful expression is a detail from one of the bronze mural lamps in the hall.

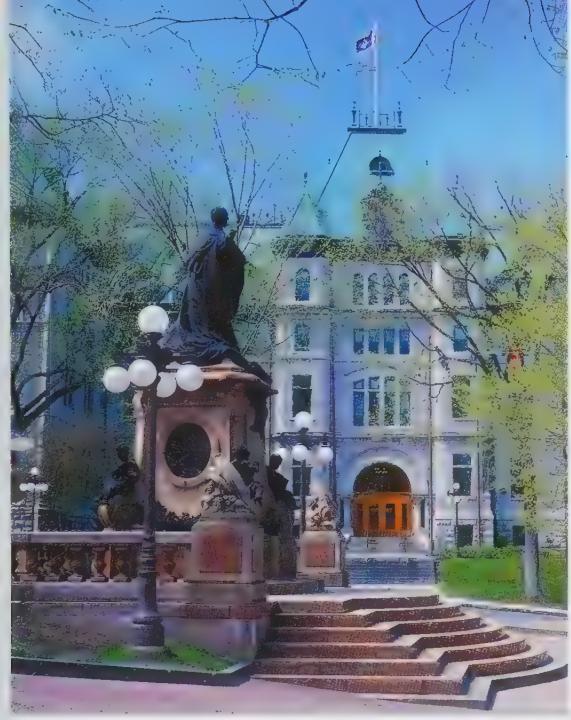
This doorknob decorated with a crowned F was designed for the Château in 1892.

Staircases





Due to its hilly terrain, Québec City has 29 outdoor public staircases, more than any other city in North America. As shown above, the Cap-Blanc staircase is the longest with 398 steps linking the Plains of Abraham and the Cap-Blanc neighbourhood, located along the St. Lawrence River. At the above left, the Frontenac staircase extends from Côte de la Montagne to Château Frontenac. To the left, Governors' Promenade, inaugurated in 1960, hangs onto the cliff of Cap Diamant between Dufferin Terrace and the Plains of Abraham by running along the Citadel's walls. It features a breathtaking panorama of the south shore and of the St. Lawrence River, an important seaway. Québec City is a favourite point of call for ocean liners. At the bottom, the Lavigueur staircase links the Saint-Jean-Baptiste faubourg and the Saint-Roch neighbourhood.



City Hall

In Place de l'Hôtel-de-Ville (City Hall Square), a monument honours Msgr. Elzéar-Alexandre Taschereau, Archbishop of Québec, who became the first Canadian cardinal in 1886. The city of Québec's flag features "a ship with its gold sails fully set standing against an azure background, framed by a silver-notched border." The vessel symbolizes the Don-de-Dieu *(Gift From God) piloted by the city's founder, Samuel de Champlain. The notched border evokes the fortifications. The city's motto is* Don de Dieu feray valoir.

Architect Georges-Émile Tanguay designed the City Hall, inaugurated in 1896. The belfry clock rings on the hour. Until 2007, the Centre d'interprétation de la vie urbaine was housed on the ground floor of the former fire station, on the north side. The Centre, now located in the historic Chevalier house *(page 9)**, presents exhibitions on the historic district and offers interesting walking tours, such as the new Québec-Trail audio tour.*

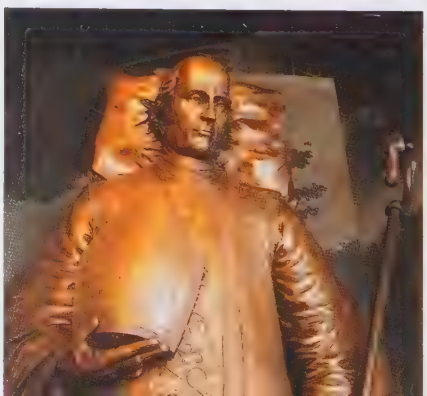
Notre-Dame de Québec
Basilica-Cathedral

Mgr de Laval canne

After France took possession of the colony under English rule from 1629 to 1633, Champlain had a votive church dedicated to the Virgin built here. The present-day Roman Catholic basilica is the product of a series of reconstructions and transformations of churches erected on the site of Champlain's original church. It became a cathedral in 1674 and a basilica in 1874. Its monumental façade is a neo-classical work by Thomas Baillairgé dating from 1843. Destroyed by fire in 1922, an exact replica was erected on the site.

The choir was reconstructed with the decor designed by François Baillairgé at the end of the 18th century. The majestic baldacchino overhangs the high altar inspired by the façade of the Basilica of St. Peter in Rome. The gilded statues of saints Peter, Joseph, Louis and Flavien, as well as of St. Félicité and St. Paul encircle the choir.

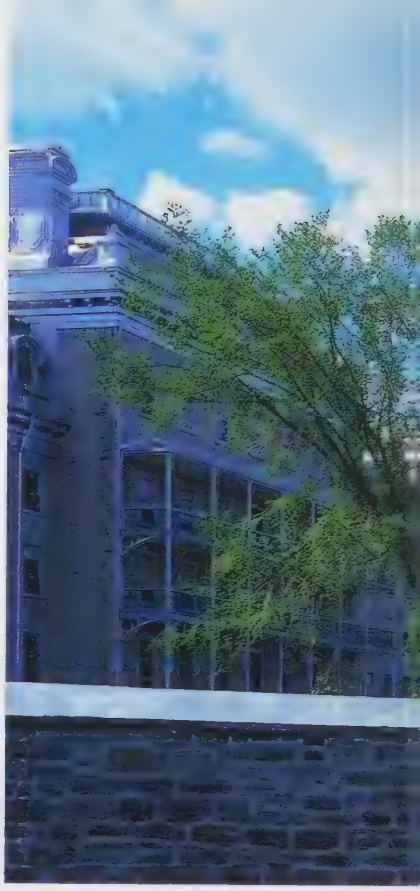
In 1674, François de Laval became the first bishop of New France. He carried out his ministry with zeal, generosity and concern; in those days his diocese extended from Labrador to the Gulf of Mexico. His tomb found inside the basilica is adorned with a bronze recumbent statue completed in 1993. Pope John-Paul II beatified Msgr. de Laval in 1980.



Latin Quarter

The Seminary-University complex, from which the neighbourhood gets its name as the Latin Quarter, includes several buildings built and modified at various periods. Founded in 1663 by Msgr. de Laval with the purpose of training priests, the Seminary also became an educational institution for boys in 1765. Laval University, founded in 1852, was the first French university in North America. The large, central pavilion was built in 1855 after plans by Charles Baillairgé. Its mansard roof and three lanterns, added in 1875, are by Joseph-Ferdinand Peachy. Today, the complex houses a museum, the Laval University Faculty of Architecture, and a secondary school.

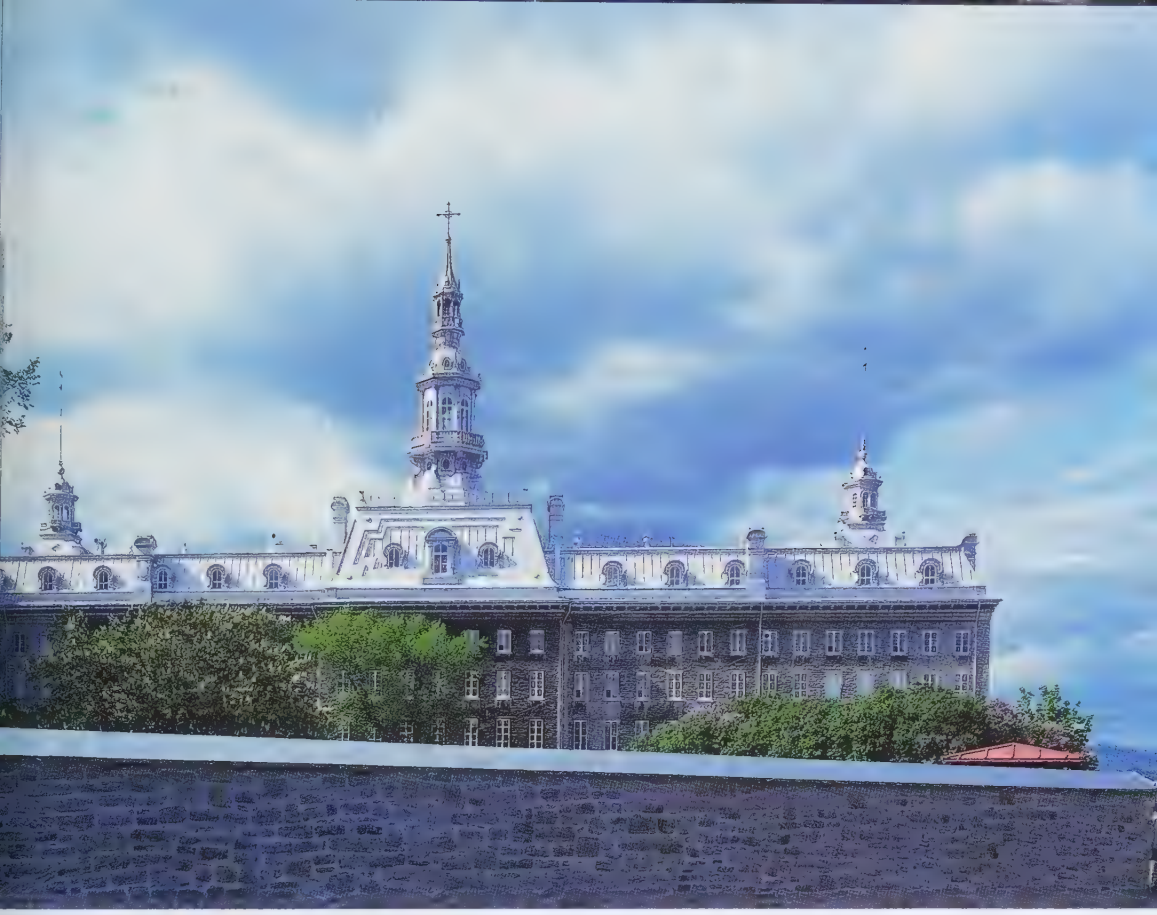
The Musée de l'Amérique française *is devoted to the history of the establishment of French culture in North America. The Québec Seminary's rich and diversified collections bear witness to a precious heritage reflecting an open-minded approach to the rest of the world.*



François-Xavier Garneau, man of letters, wrote the first Histoire du Canada *in 1845. He died in 1866 in his new home on Saint-Flavien Street. The interior of the F.-X Garneau House, built in 1862, still charms visitors with its Victorian atmosphere.*

Photo Paul Laliberté, Laval University for *Les Editions Continuité*

Sitting on the corner of Sainte-Famille and Hébert streets, the Touchet House was built in the middle of the 18th century for the master cooper Simon Touchet. With its dormers, small-paned windows, thick walls and wide chimney, it conserves its original architectural character dating from New France.



Two charming houses with mansard roofs, Saint-Flavien Street. "In the streets of Québec City, on a grey day, on a dry day, I like to go for a walk, facing the wind, with a joyful, dreamy heart," (translation) sang Charles Trenet, a famous poet and singer from France.

The Latin Quarter has hardly changed since the 19th century. Couillard Street crosses what was once the fief of seigneur *Guillaume Couillard, Louis Hébert's principal labourer and son-in-law, who died in 1663.*

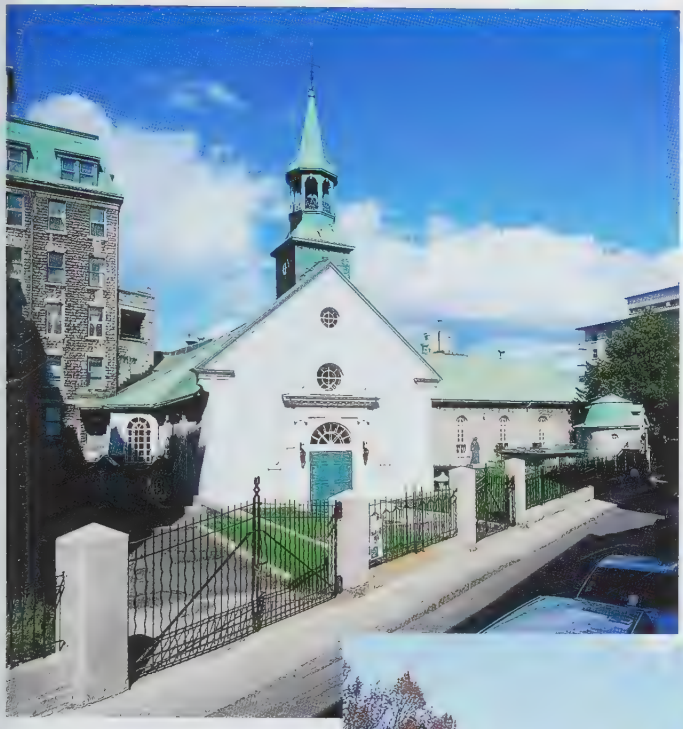
At the end of the street is Béthanie House built in 1878 for the Soeurs du Bon-Pasteur *to house unwed mothers. Today, the Good Shepherd Museum presents the life of Marie Fitzback, founder of the community in 1850, as well as the nuns' social and missionary works.*

Photo Louise Lepiane, classroom
Good Shepherd Museum

Old Québec is characterized by its steeply sloping streets and often sharply angled intersections. The shapes of the houses have been adapted accordingly, as seen here at the junction of the peaceful Hébert and Monseigneur-de Laval streets.

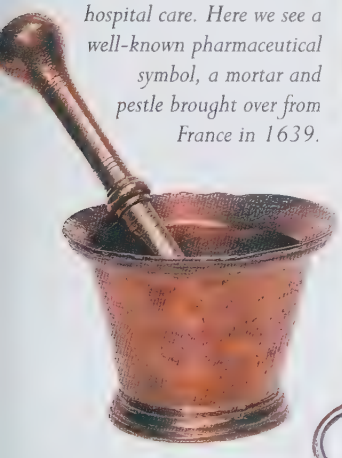
On the corner of Couillard and Saint-Flavien streets stands the modest Beaudet House built in 1727.

Augustinian Nuns



Hôtel-Dieu de Québec Hospital was opened in 1639 by three Augustinian Hospitallers from Dieppe in France, thanks to the support of Marie de Vignerot, who was Duchess d'Aiguillon and Cardinal de Richelieu's niece. The monastery and the hospital were rebuilt after a fire in 1755. The church was erected in 1800 and its neo-classical portal was added in 1839 by Thomas Baillairgé. Below, the old cloister from 1755 bears witness to the continuing history of the nuns' works.

The Musée des Augustines *presents a surprising collection of objects associated with the history of the community and with hospital care. Here we see a well-known pharmaceutical symbol, a mortar and pestle brought over from France in 1639.*



Commonly known as "nuns' keys", French latch keys were used by the Augustinian nuns for over three centuries.

Catherine de Saint-Augustin arrived in Québec City in 1648. After devoting about twenty years to the sick, she died at the age of 36. Her spiritual life earned her the title of Blessed in 1989.

Hugues Pommier,
Catherine de Saint-Augustin,
Québec, 1668

"The secret of Québec City's charm lies in its varied and unpredictable character; with every step you take, the view changes, a new panorama unfolds before your eyes, as beautiful as the one before, but with a different charm." (translation)

Wilfred Laurier, politician, 1889

Des Remparts Street

Running along the edge of the cliff, Des Remparts Street follows the fortified walls. It is named after this defensive wall completed in 1811. The ramparts were lowered about three metres in 1878 to form a long belvedere with exceptional views of the Lower Town and surrounding area. Having one's residence on this street was a sign of prestige for merchants in the 19th century. To the right, Montcalm House, built in 1724, was the home of the Marquis de Montcalm, General of the French troops during the battle of the Plains of Abraham in 1759.

At sunrise, the windows reflect the colours of the sky before the walls of the houses heat up.

Artillery Park

Artillery Park Heritage Site is a group of fortifications and military buildings whose construction began in 1690. Chaussegros de Léry, the colony's chief engineer, completed the Dauphine Redoubt in 1749. Strengthened by massive buttresses, the white redoubt housed soldiers and stored gunpowder and weapons until 1871.

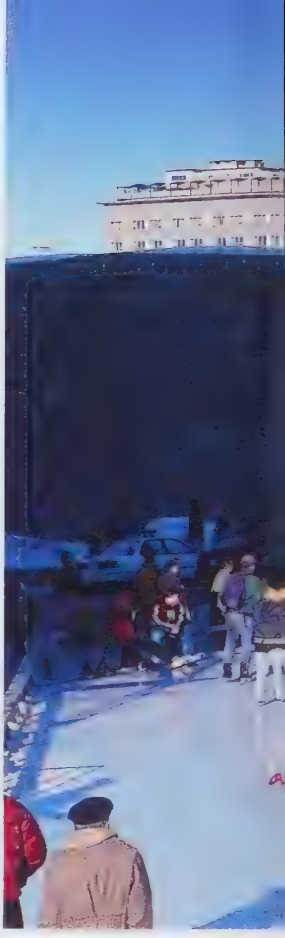
In 1818, an old bakery was turned into the Officers' Quarters. The interior decor re-creates the way of life of a captain and his family around 1830. Guides in period costume animate the site. Here we see the tea ceremony and bread making.

The towers of the Saint-Louis, Kent and Saint-Jean gates rise in succession along the ramparts. To the left, a steeple crowns the Jesuit Chapel built in 1818. Take a tour of the city by walking on the 4.5 km of ramparts offering exceptional views of Québec City and the surrounding area.

The construction of the gun carriage warehouse's stone walls began in 1831. To protect them from bad weather, the wooden carriages were put in storage until they were needed to support the cannons. Nearly 200 cannons still stand guard over the fortifications.
Parallel to the warehouse stands the Arsenal Foundry (1901), now open to visitors. The foundry houses a fascinating scale model of the city of Québec produced by Jean-Baptiste Duberger and John By in 1808. Not far from the officers' quarters stands a Celtic cross offered by Ireland in 2000 in commemoration of the Great Famine 150 years ago. The inscription reads, 'To the people of Québec from the people of Ireland in remembrance of their selfless compassion in a time of need.'

Place d'Youville and Saint-Jean Street

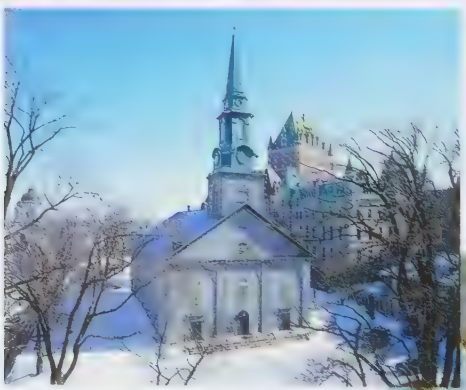
Saint-Jean Street is a commercial street that crosses the Saint-Jean-Baptiste faubourg and Place d'Youville, goes under the Saint-Jean Gate and then continues down to Place des Livernois. Place d'Youville has long been a popular meeting place, a stopping point for people passing through the city. In summer, crowds gather for festivities. In winter, the skating rink attracts young and old alike near the historic walls. The architecture of Saint-Jean Gate, built in 1939, is well integrated into the wall formed by the ramparts, a line temporarily broken in 1898 when the old gate was demolished



Place des Livernois is at the intersection of Saint-Jean Street and some narrow streets in the Latin Quarter. This elegant, neo-classical house with a rounded corner was the home of the Livernois photographers from 1854 to 1974

The Capitole's unusual Second Empire *façade announces the city's prestigious theatre inaugurated in 1903. Stars such as Sarah Bernhardt, Édith Piaf and Maurice Chevalier have performed here. The details of this work by the architect Walter S. Painter attract the attention of passers-by.*

In Art Deco style, the Price Building was the first skyscraper in Quebec city. The Price Brothers paper company had it built in 1929 to house its headquarters. In the foreground, D'Auteuil Street.



St. Andrew's Church, erected in 1810 by Scottish Quebecers, is the oldest Presbyterian church in Canada.

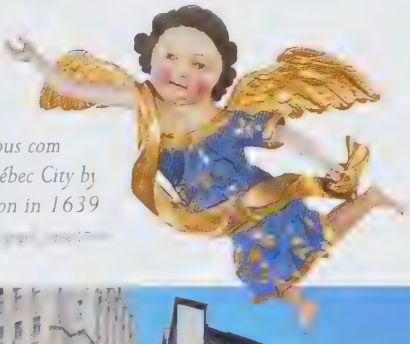
The Anglican cathedral of the Holy Trinity, inaugurated in 1804, draws inspiration from St. Martin-in-the-Fields Church in London. Inside, countless painted wooden panels form the coffered vault. Visitors are surprised by the box pews.

Ursuline Nuns

The first girls' school in America, the Ursuline Monastery is made up of several structures built, rebuilt and renovated over the centuries. To the left, the Parloirs Wing rebuilt in 1873.

The carriage gateway, which crossed the Sainte-Angèle Wing built in 1836, has welcomed generations of students.

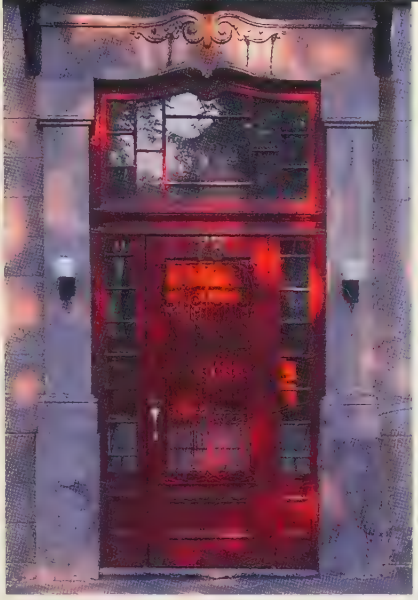
The Musée des Ursulines' rich and varied collection recounts the life and educational work of this religious community established in Québec City by Marie de l'Incarnation in 1639



Wedged between two buildings, this 1847 house has the smallest stone façade in North America.

From Door to Door

The doors and their frames provide a magnificent synthesis of the architectural ornamentation. Their decoration compensates for the austere façades of the Upper Town's 19th century houses.



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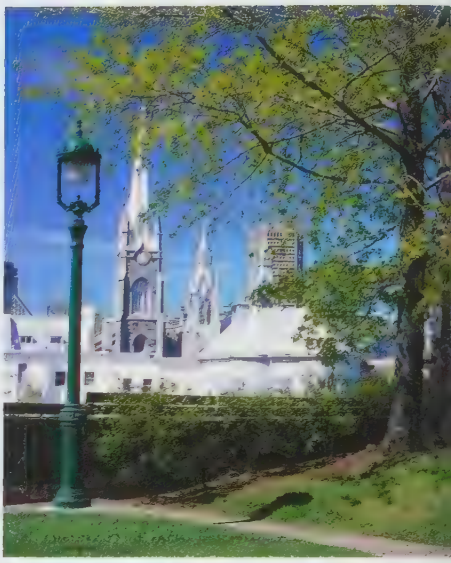
"Walking in Québec City is like turning the pages of a book filled with pictures from the past and where the view changes on every street corner." (translation)

Charles Haight Farnham, 1882

Running alongside the Citadel's glacis, Saint-Denis Avenue is the highest street in Québec City. The end of the avenue opens like a window onto the St. Lawrence River.

Sainte-Geneviève Avenue is in the vicinity of the Jardin des Gouverneurs (Governors' Garden). Once a garden reserved exclusively for the colony's governors, this park surrounded by low walls has been open to the public since 1838. The American Consulate is located in the orange brick house.



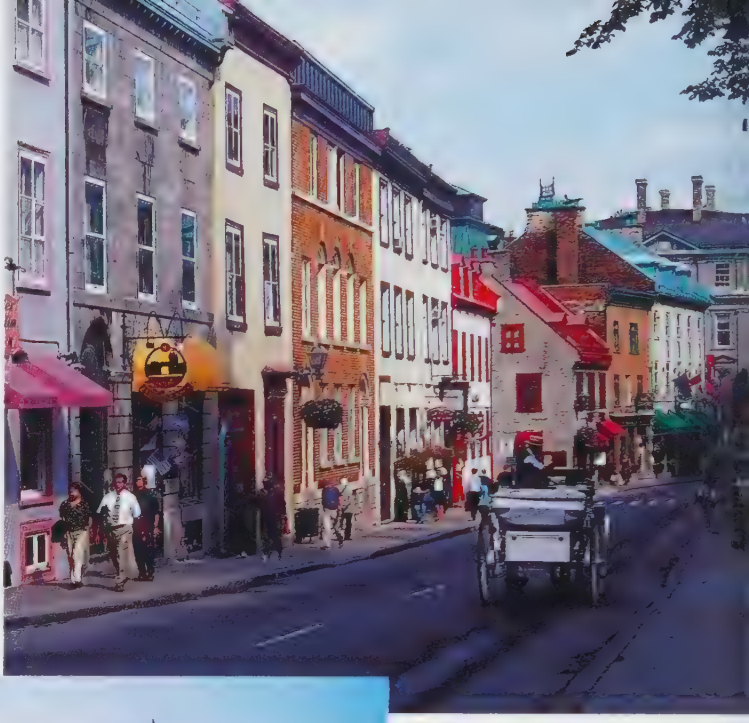
In 1663, a windmill was erected on a rocky mound. Thirty years later, the French military surrounded it with a large wall to form a defence works called a "cavalier". Privately owned for many years, the small historic Cavalier-du-Moulin Park was inaugurated in 1962. The steeples of Chalmers-Wesley United Church and of Notre-Dame-du-Sacré-Coeur Sanctuary stand together against the clear blue sky.

Flower Boxes, Sainte-Ursule Street

The windows on Sainte-Ursule Street, distinguished by the era in which they were built, charm passers-by with their beautiful flower boxes.

Saint-Louis Street

Laid out around 1630, Saint-Louis Street was named in honour of Louis XIII, King of France. This very busy street extends from Saint-Louis Gate to Place d'Armes. Since the 19th century, horse carriage rides have offered visitors a romantic way to discover Old Québec.



The little Jacquet House is the oldest home in Québec City. It was built in 1674 for the master roofer François Jacquet called Langevin. It is a good example of domestic architecture from the end of the 17th century. Philippe Aubert de Gaspé, the famous author of the novel entitled Les Anciens Canadiens (The Old Canadians) *lived here in the 19th century.*

D'Auteuil Street runs between a beautiful row of houses and Esplanade Park where the British military used to parade.

"In Québec City, the first luxury item people buy is a horse and carriage. There are so many hills that one wearies of going on foot all the time; and rides in the country are so beautiful!" (translation)

Hector Fabre, journalist, 1877

Saint-Louis Gate

The first Saint-Louis Gate was built in 1694. The current gate, a work by the architect William H. Lyon in 1878, is one of the main access routes to Old Québec. The Québec Garrison Club building stands alongside the gate with which its architecture harmonizes.

Esplanade Powder Magazine, built in 1815, houses the Fortifications of Québec National Historic Site of Canada Interpretation Centre.

"The marvellous walk along the ramparts above the Esplanade is enhanced by panoramic views of the landscape; the little group of hills forming a sort of doorway into the wilderness is a delight to the eye." (translation)

James Pattison Cockburn
aquarellist, 1831

Citadel

Photo: Pierre Lahoud

Colonel E.W. Durnford designed the Citadel built on Cap Diamant in the 1820s. The star-shaped fortress complies with the principles for building defence works developed by the Marquis de Vauban under Louis XIV. Dalhousie Gate, the sole entrance to the Citadel, leads to about twenty buildings and a museum. The Citadel is the home of the Royal 22nd Regiment whose mascot is Batisse the goat.

In summer, the Changing of the Guard is held in the morning to the sound of the Regimental Band in front of the visitors. The Retreat pays tribute to the flag at the end of the day.

Every four years, the "Take the Capital by Storm!" event brings the area surrounding the Citadel to life. Over a thousand Americans, wearing period costumes and bearing arms typical of soldiers in the 18th century, simulate pitched battles from that era.

A proud weathervane sways in the wind on the roof of the Citadel's chapel.

Québec Winter Carnival

The Québec Winter Carnival is a warm invitation to winter festivities in the snow capital. Bonhomme, *a big jovial snowman or* bonhomme de neige *in French, accompanied by his comical friends, the Knucks, brings the largest winter carnival in the world to life.*

Since 1954, participants and spectators alike have thoroughly enjoyed themselves in February at the many Carnival activities: the magical night parades featuring brass bands, clowns and parade floats, the invigorating polar bear swim at minus 30° Celsius, the dog sled race, the International Snow Sculpture Show where artists from many countries rival to prove their talent, the dangerous canoe race across the icy St. Lawrence River, the comical soapbox derby and a host of other fun-filled activities.

Parliament Building

The City of Québec is the capital of the province of Québec. The Parliament Building was erected from 1877 to 1886 after Eugène-Étienne Taché's plans. In Second Empire *style, the building has four wings set in a square. Its façade bears twenty-two bronze statues of the women and men who marked the country's history. The Québec motto* Je me souviens *(I remember) is sculpted in stone above the portal. The Parliament Building is located on a landscaped hill near other government buildings.*

The fleur-de-lis, *the province of Québec's official flag since 1948, waves at the top of the central tower.*

The Maison Simons offered the City of Québec the Fontaine de Tourny in honour of the city's 400th anniversary. Close to 7 metres high, its figures symbolize rivers, navigation and fishing. Sixteen of the 43 jets spout from frogs on water lilies, and are colourfully illuminated at nightfall. Created in 1854 by sculptor Mathurin Moreau and the Barbezat foundries in France, the fountain was originally erected on the Allées de Tourny in Bordeaux. Dismantled and stored away in 1960, it was brought to light by Peter Simons in 2003.

The National Assembly Room brings together the elected deputies for parliamentary sessions. From opposite sides of the room, the deputies from the party in power face those from the opposition. The side galleries receive the guests who attend the sessions. The room's ceremonious ornamentation is the work of the architect and sculptor F.-X. Berlinguet. On the wall, a large painting by Charles Huot illustrates Le débat des langues en 1793 *(The Linguistic Debate in 1793)*

The statue entitled Le pêcheur à la nigog *(The Harpoon Fisherman) stands on* La fontaine de l'Amérindien *(The First Nations Fountain) in front of the Parliament Building's main entrance. This sculpture and many of the building's other bronzes are works by Louis-Philipe Hébert.*

Photo Claude Bureau et associées inc.

Québec Summer Festival

Since 1968, the Québec Summer Festival has been an extraordinary artistic celebration that takes over the city for eleven days in July. This internationally renowned festival celebrates French song and invites musicians, singers and dancers from all over the world. More than 800 artists from about twenty countries present hundreds of shows.

Entertainers, acrobats, magicians and clowns take over the streets during the festival and add a touch of fantasy and magic to the delight of all the children at heart.

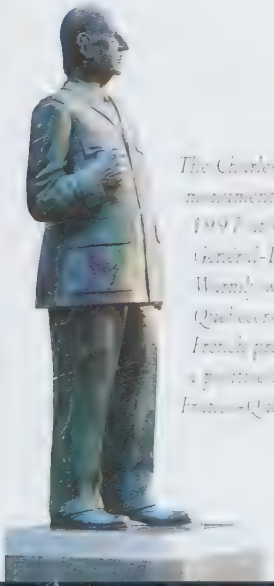
Grande Allée

Grande Allée is well shaded by a line of mature elms behind which stands a row of beautiful 19th century buildings.

All year round, this area is especially popular for its cafés, restaurant-terraces and various categories of hotels. In the evening, the bars and discotheques add spark to the nightlife.

The large Voltigeurs de Québec Armoury is almost entirely taken up by a huge drill hall used for military exercises and ceremonies. Built after plans by E.-E. Taché in 1888, the details of its Château style strike one's admiration. Unfortunately destroyed in a fire in 2008, it is awaiting restoration.

In front of the Armoury, the lawn of Place George-V extends as far as Grande Allée.



The Charles de Gaulle monument was unveiled in 1997 at Carré du Général-De Montcalm. Warmly welcomed by Québecers in 1967, this French president made a positive contribution to Franco-Québec relations.

Battlefields Park set the stage for the decisive battle between the French and English in 1759. The site is also called the Plains of Abraham in reference to Abraham Martin, who owned land on the city's heights around 1646. Trees, flowers and grasses magnificently cover a more than one-hundred-hectare undulating plateau.

The Maison de la découverte des plaines d'Abraham *receives and informs visitors about the activities and services offered all year round. Completed in 1812, the Martello Towers are defence constructions. Above, the Martello Tower No. 1 at dawn.*

"Since we were approaching Québec City, there were six feet of snow; from the Abraham heights, our gaze turned to what appeared to be a huge expanse of snow; all the minor unevenness of the terrain, and the fences, posts and deadwood had disappeared." (translation)

Adam Hodgson, 1824

Plains of Abraham

The Joan of Arc Garden fans out around the equestrian statue of this French heroine, a work by the New York sculptor, Anne Hyett Huntingdon. The symphony of colours and the fine perfume from 150 species of flowers make it a perfect spot for lounging about, reading, and especially for murmuring sweet nothings in a loved one's ear.

Concerned about the horses' well-being, a group of women raised the funds required to build this watering trough through public patronage in 1898.

Musée national des beaux-arts du Québec

A precious repository of Québec art, the Musée national des beaux-arts du Québec, *located on the Plains of Abraham, was inaugurated in 1933. A huge staircase, in Lyon, pomace, carved pediment and bronze doors decorate the Gérard-Morisset Pavilion's neo-classical façade.*

The old Québec district prison (1861-1971) was integrated into the Musée *in 1991 and is called the Charles-Baillargé Pavilion in honour of its architect. A few jail cells still bear witness to prison life. The Grand Hall, made entirely of glass and granite, links the two pavilions.*

The museum has 34,000 works, including the largest collection of Québec art from the 17th century to the present and an outstanding collection of 2,635 works of Inuit art. It also presents international exhibitions devoted to an artist, a theme or an era.

Jean Dallaire Exhibition
Pierre-Patrick Altman

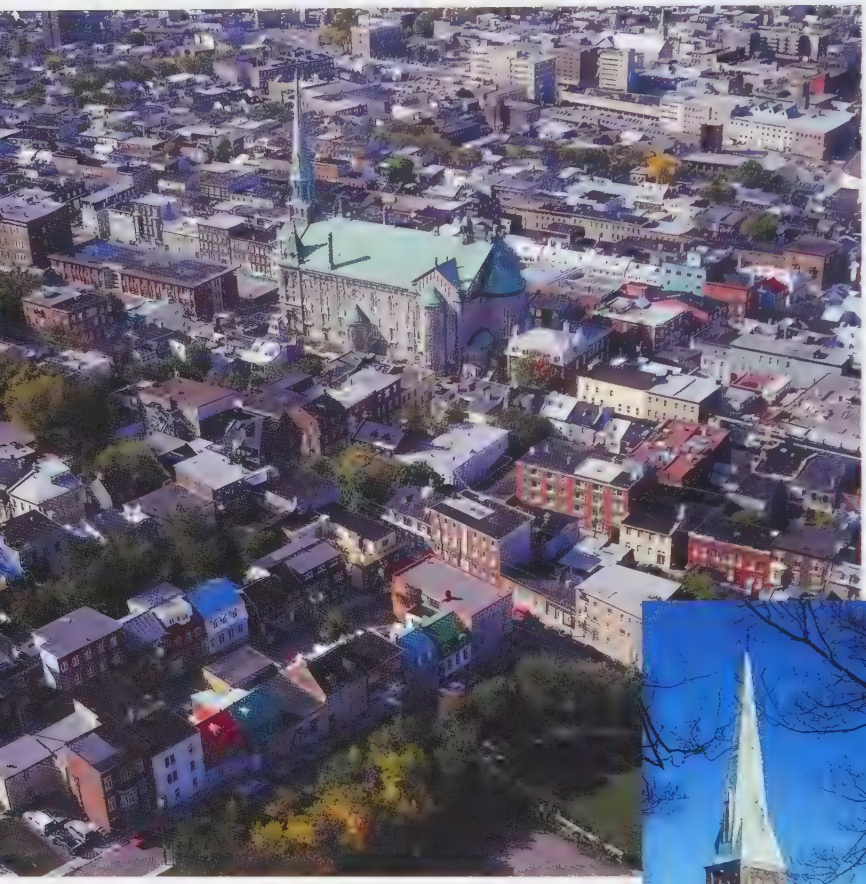
The Krieghoff House, built in 1848, is named after the painter Cornelius Krieghoff, who lived there. This great artist painted lively scenes of Québec country life.

Facing the Krieghoff House on Grande Allée, the Henry-Stuart House built in 1849 is a Regency style cottage surrounded by an English naturalistic garden, popular in the 19th century.

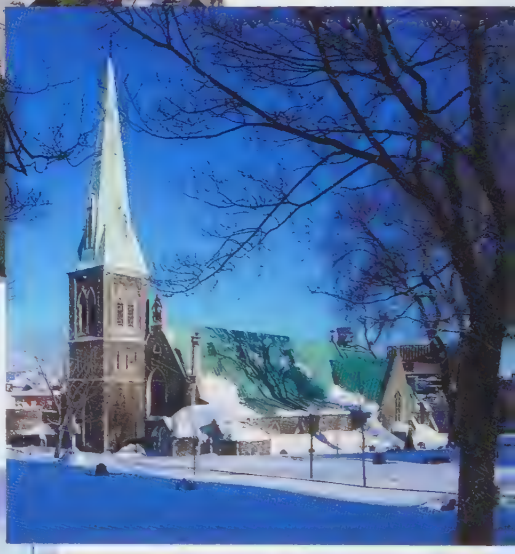
Inside the house, the furniture and original decoration have been carefully conserved to welcome visitors at teatime. The property belongs to the Conseil des monuments et sites du Québec, *an organization devoted to the protection and presentation of architectural heritage.*

Near Parliament Hill, the Convention Centre, inaugurated in 1996, is part of a hotel and commercial complex. The long wall of windows in its main lobby symbolizes the Centre's open-minded approach to the rest of the world. Le Quatuor d'airain *(The Bronze Quartet), part of a sculpture by Lucienne Cornet.*

Saint-Jean-Baptiste Faubourg



The Saint-Jean-Baptiste faubourg was built up in the 19th century, just west of the walls of Old Québec. Many craftsmen in the construction trades settled there. The Saint-Jean-Baptiste Church with its tall steeple, a work by J.-F. Peachy, was erected in 1884. Some hills in this neighbourhood, such as on De la Claire-Fontaine Street, are so steep that stairs with landings serve as sidewalks.

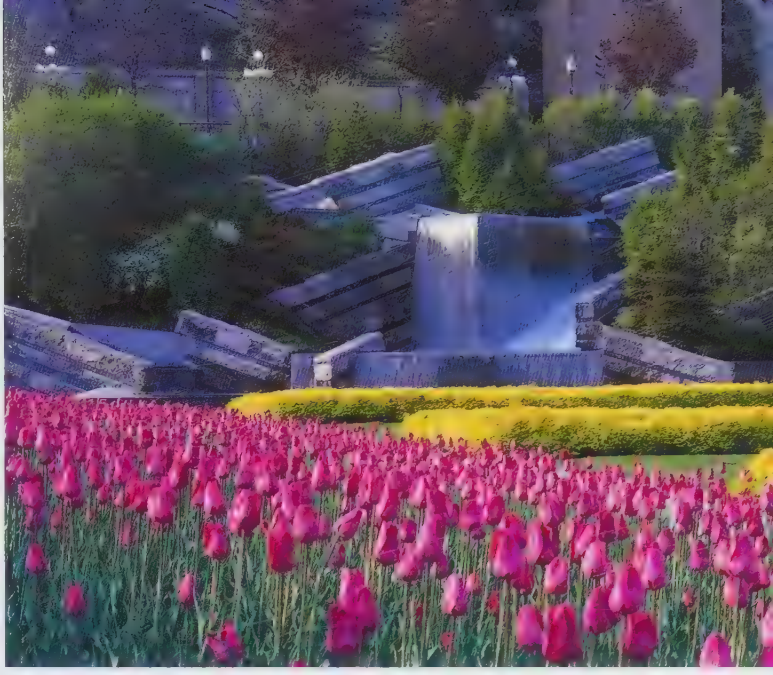


The old St. Mathew's Anglican Church, whose Gothic Revival architecture draws inspiration from country churches in England in the Middle Ages, was built in 1848. The tower was added in 1882. Today it houses a public library and is surrounded by a park on the old cemetery site.

Côte d'Abraham, the main link between the faubourg and the Lower Town, was originally a path used by Abraham Martin in the 17th century to go down to the Saint-Charles River and water his cattle. The Meduse complex, a visual arts creation and communications centre inaugurated in 1994, occupies the buildings on this hill.

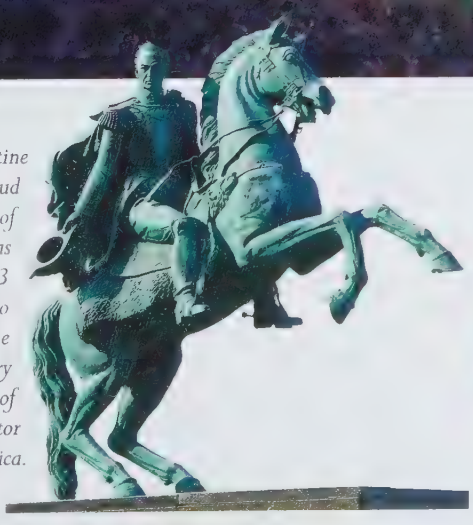
Lower Town

The public garden in Place Saint-Roch features flower and shrub species and varieties that reflect the city's northern character. Integrated into the rock wall at the foot of Côte d'Abraham, a swift waterfall flows into a basin.



Gare du Palais *(railroad and bus station), a work in the Château style by the architect Henry Edward Prindle, was inaugurated in 1916. Situated in front of the station, the* Éclatement II *fountain by the sculptor Charles Daudelin.*

In Amérique-Latine Park, the proud equestrian statue of Simon Bolivar was donated in 1983 by Venezuela to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the birth of the Liberator of Latin America.



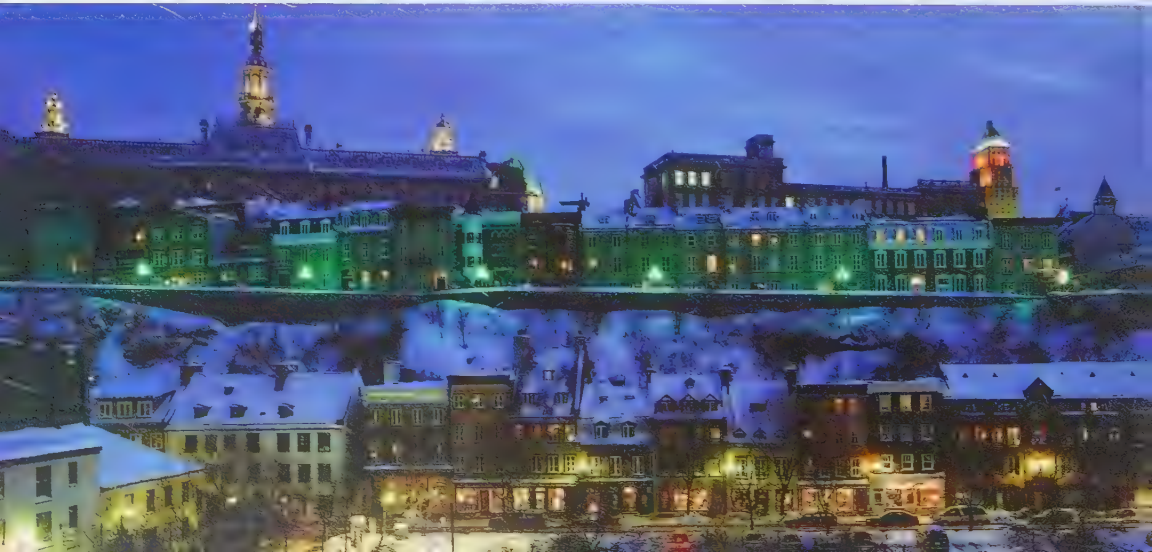
Right nearby, under a highway overpass, the world-famous ***Cirque du Soleil***™ *presents a spectacular free show all summer long, les Chemins invisibles. Seventy-five talented acrobats, forming three tribes and accompanied by the public, converge on this gathering place to give a highly colourful performance.*

Place de la FAO was inaugurated in 1995. It marks the 50th anniversary of the founding of the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization in Québec City. Entitled La Vivrière, *the figurehead of an imaginary ship rises above the waves, her arms filled with fruit and vegetables.*

The narrow picturesque Sous-le-Cap Street runs along the cliff below Des Remparts Street. Flower-filled balconies, dozens of walkways and stairs intersect between the houses and storage sheds set against the cliff.

Market gardeners and horticulturalists from the greater Québec region come to sell their farm-fresh products at the market in the Old Port.

An old firehouse, built in 1912, houses the Ex Machina *theatre arts centre directed by the Québec's world famous playwright, actor and film director, Robert Lepage*



Musée de la civilisation

With its bold architectural design, the Musée de la civilisation *faces the waterfront and is perfectly integrated into the historic district. A stylized steeple proudly marks its presence.*

Inaugurated in 1988, the museum is characterized by its innovative approach; visitors are invited to discover and explore the exhibitions using all their senses!

From the permanent exhibition *Territories*
Ski-Doo Snowmobile
Fibreglass, metal, plastic, 1963
Photo Idra Labrie, Perspective

From the permanent exhibition *People of Québec...Then and Now.*
Fire brigade chief's wagon
Hidora Lebel (1901-1987)
Wood, iron, cotton, paint,
Lévis, 1930.
Photo Idra Labrie, Perspective

The museum simultaneously presents several different thematic, permanent or temporary exhibitions on diverse aspects of the Amerindian nations, Québec society and the human adventure.

From the permanent exhibition *People of Québec...Then and Now.*
Banner and wool snowshoer's coat.
Photo Idra Labrie, Perspective

Saint-Paul Street, once occupied by wholesale dealers, is now an exceptional antique dealers' street. At the top of the cliff are the houses on Des Remparts Street and the Seminary.

Old Port

The Old Port is located at the intersection of the Saint-Charles and St. Lawrence rivers. In the 1880s, the construction of a pier in the estuary of the River created a basin to shelter small boats and schooners. It was called the Louise Basin in honour of Queen Victoria's daughter. Today, the basin wharves mostly serve pleasure boats. The Old Port also features an interpretation centre, a farmers' market, the Québec Naval School with the Naval Museum of Québec, the Customs Building, the Pointe-à-Carcy promenade and the Agora, an outdoor amphitheatre.

The Bunge grain silos become the world's biggest architectural projection site (600 metres long, a Guinness World Record). Every evening throughout the summer, Robert Lepage and Ex Machina (p. 58) present **The Image Mill**, *an amazing artistic and technological feat that brings the history of Quebec City to life on bare concrete! Fantastic!*

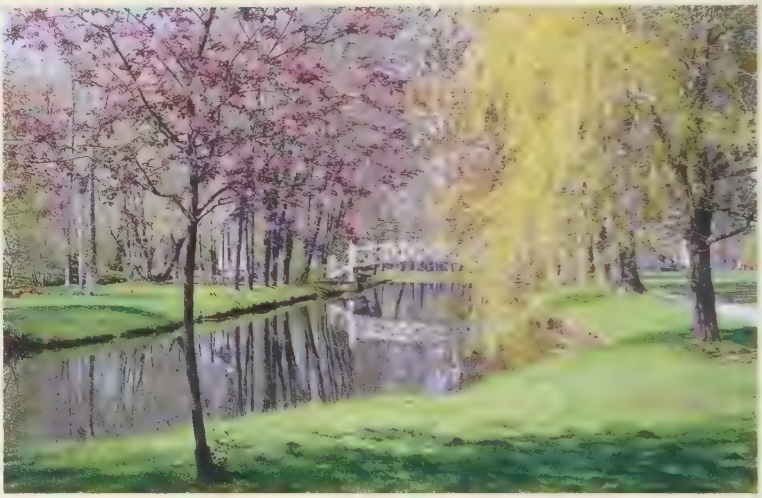
Nearby

The Parc Aquarium du Québec is home to more than 3,500 freshwater and saltwater fish, invertebrates, reptiles, amphibians and marine mammals. Several specimens from the Pacific Ocean swim in 350,000 litres of water surrounding a clear pedestrian tunnel. Tour guides introduce you to the polar bears and walruses and the seals put on an exciting show.

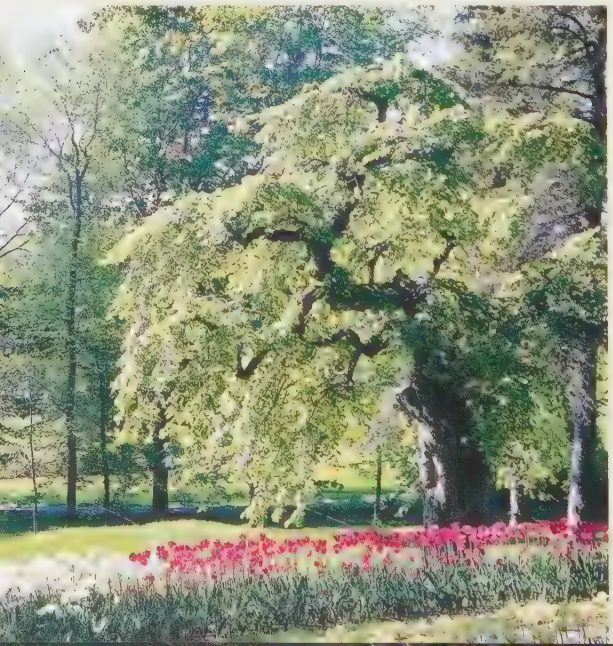
Arctic Seals

Photo: Steve Deschênes
Parc Aquarium
du Québec

Nestled in a delightful garden filled with rare or native plants, Villa Bagatelle, a 19th century English cottage, features expositions having a nature theme.



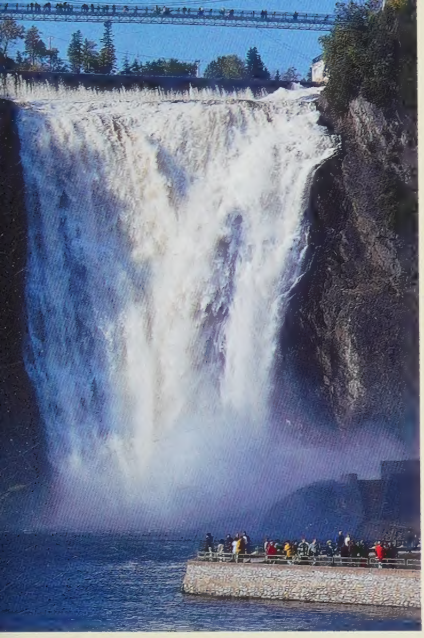
In the Limoilou neighbourhood, Domaine Maizerets is a recreational park. Various outdoor and cultural activities are offered for the entire family. The 27-hectare estate, featuring an arboretum and a water garden, fans out around a huge stone house erected by the priests of the Seminary in 1777.



On the Laval University campus in Sainte-Foy, a fascinating collection of indigenous and foreign plants are displayed at the Roger-Van den Hende Garden. The six-hectare garden features an arboretum. The Iris versicolor L. *is the floral emblem of the garden and of the province of Québec.*

Photo Roll Grenier

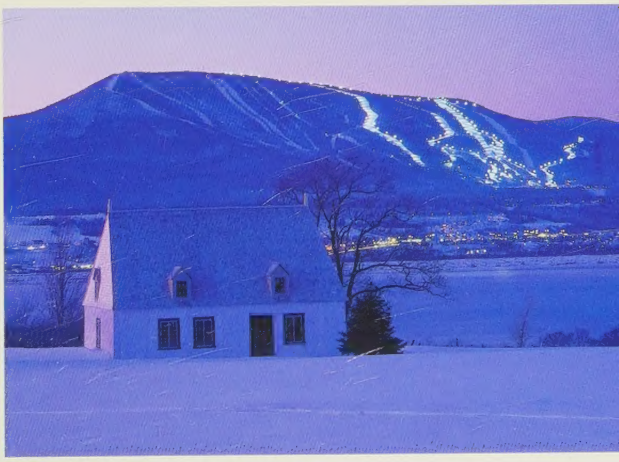
Site of the old residence for the lieutenant-governors of Québec from 1870 to 1966, Bois-de-Coulonge is a huge, partly wooded public park. Located on a promontory, it offers fascinating vistas. Behind the tulips, a superb weeping elm over one hundred years old.



To the east of Québec City, where the Laurentide Mountains and the St. Lawrence River meet, a rich natural environment and heritage villages blend to produce the unforgettable charm of Côte de Beaupré and Island of Orléans.

Since the 17th century, Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupré has been a pilgrimage site dedicated to Jesus' grandmother. The basilica is remarkable for the details of its symbolic ornamentation. Every year, over a million people visit the sanctuary.

At Montmorency Falls Park, walkways, lookouts, a cable-car and a suspension bridge enable visitors to admire the impressive 83-metre-high falls. Beautiful churches and many ancestral houses in a pastoral setting create a peaceful and enchanting atmosphere on Island of Orléans. The island's motto, J'accueille et je nourris *(I welcome and I nourish), proclaims the generosity of its inhabitants and of their land. Cap Tourmente National Wildlife Area provides an essential habitat for the Greater Snow Goose as it migrates. Trails criss-cross the wetlands enabling visitors to better observe the various bird species.*



Mont Sainte-Anne is the most important ski centre in Eastern Quebec. A wide range of outdoor activities are offered all year long. McNicoll Bridge overhangs the impressive Sainte-Anne Canyon. The view when crossing the bridge is unforgettable.

Photo Canyon Sainte-Anne

"Québec City's extraordinary landscape. At the tip of Cap Diamant in front of the huge opening created by the St. Lawrence, air, light and water intermingle in infinite proportions. For the first time on this continent, a true impression of beauty and grandeur." *(translation)*

Albert Camus, writer, 1946

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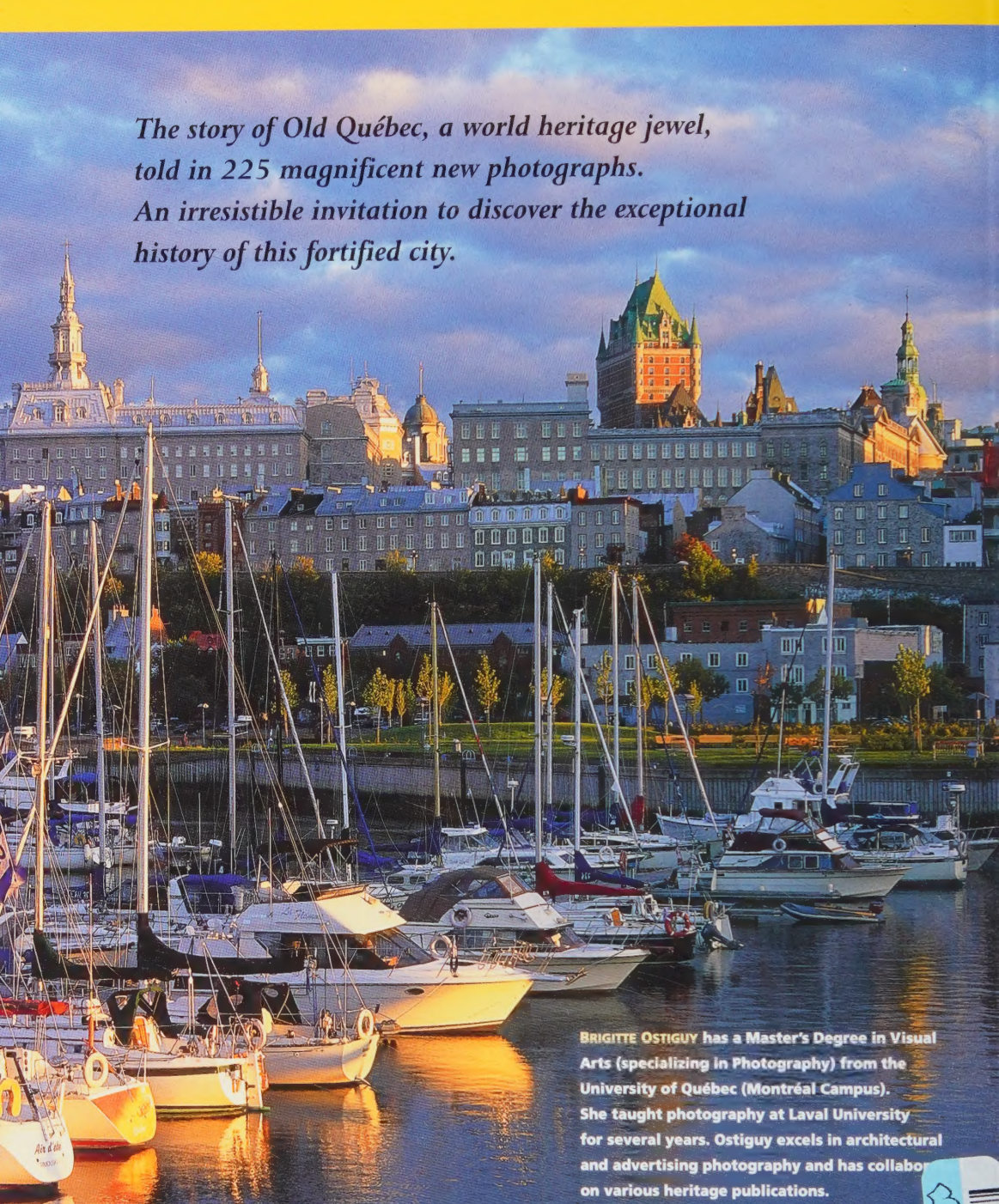
Island of Orléans, Enchanted Isle
Saint Anne de Beaupré, an Inspiration

Old Québec as viewed by visitors from the Observatoire de la capitale. *On the other side of the St. Lawrence River, the city of Lévis. In the distance, Island of Orléans. The Observatory, located on the 31st floor of the Marie-Guyart Building on Parliament Hill, offers a striking 360° panorama of the city and the metropolitan area seen from an altitude of 221 metres.*

07/2009

The story of Old Québec, a world heritage jewel, told in 225 magnificent new photographs. An irresistible invitation to discover the exceptional history of this fortified city.



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